Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

 an instant messaging server and a plurality of instant messaging client applications, communicating via a computer network to send and receive instant messages in real time, integrated with n-way teleconferencing capability via a telephone network;

 a teleconferencing server for enabling a teleconference between n-way telephone connections via the telephone network, each telephone connection associated with a participant of the teleconference, and for sending to the instant messaging server: a notification of a status of the telephone connection of each participant of the teleconference; and an indication of a participant in the teleconference who is speaking at a given time;

 each instant messaging client application including a graphical user interface comprising: a system for indicating to the instant messaging server that a participant wishes to speak in the teleconference; and a system for displaying information received via one or more instant message from the instant messaging server: details of each participant in the teleconference; and a status of the telephone connection of each participant in the teleconference.

Claims 2-4 (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the n-way telephone connections are to telephone apparatus of users of the instant messaging client applications.

6. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein an additional telephone connection is to a telephone apparatus of a user who is not a user of an instant messaging client application.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the teleconferencing server uses a bridge which interfaces with the telephone network that interprets set up and control commands relating to a teleconference.

10. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the teleconference server allows the system to utilise different network interfaces.

11. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the teleconference server includes an interface allowing an instant messaging client application to set up and control a teleconference.

12. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the teleconference server includes a telephone profile service for retrieving and storing telephone profiles, and a teleconference profile service for managing teleconference profiles including policy information, pin numbers and port allowances.

13. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the instant messaging client applications is a moderator of the teleconference and has a graphical user interface including control input means for controlling the teleconference.

14. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[4]] 1, wherein the graphical user interface includes means for providing a telephone number at which a participant can be connected for the teleconference.

15. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

in which a plurality of users each with an instant messaging client application communicate communicating in real time by instant messages via an instant messaging server and a computer network and can be simultaneously connected by an n-way teleconference via a telephone network;

enabling a teleconference between n-way telephone connections via a teleconferencing server and the telephone network, each telephone connection associated with a participant of the teleconference;

sending from the teleconference server to the instant messaging server: a notification of a status of the telephone connection of each participant of the teleconference; and an indication of a participant in the teleconference who is speaking at a given time;

each instant messaging client application:

indicating to the instant messaging server, via a graphical user interface, that a participant wishes to speak in the teleconference; and displaying, via the graphical user interface, information received via one or more instant message from the instant messaging server: details of each participant in the teleconference; and a status of the telephone connection of each participant in the teleconference.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a user of an instant messaging client application sets up and controls a teleconference by instant messaging communication with a teleconference server.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the user initiating the teleconference sends an instant message in the form of an invitation to proposed participants of the teleconference.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein non-users of instant messaging applications can also participate in the n-way teleconference by dialling in themselves or being dialled in by another participant.

Claims 20-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim [[21]] 15, wherein the method includes a user inputting a telephone number in the graphical user interface at which they can be contacted for a proposed teleconference.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program stored on a computer readable storage medium, comprising computer readable program code means for performing the ~~steps of: providing an instant messaging client application for communicating with other instant messaging client applications by instant messages delivered via an instant messaging server on a computer network; providing an extension to the instant messaging client application for enabling teleconferencing using a teleconferencing server on the computer network enabling n-way telephone connections via the telephone network~~ method of claim 15.

25. (Cancelled).